

WE CLAIM AS OUR INVENTION:

1. A method to localize regions in a biological tissue section that, at least during an examination, exhibits a fluorescence property different from the tissue section, due to which, given an exposure with light of a first wavelength, light of another wavelength is emitted, comprising the steps of:

- (a) applying a sequence of fluorescence-exciting light signals at different locations on the tissue-section;
- (b) measuring fluorescence light arising due to the light signals, at a plurality of measurement locations on a surface of the tissue section, and thereby obtaining response signals;
- (c) determining frequency-independent signal portions in the response signals and further processing the frequency-independent signal portions into input values for localization;
- (d) modeling the tissue section and determining a set of guide fields from the model; and
- (e) transforming the guide fields and comparing the input values processed from the frequency-independent signal portions with the transformed guide fields, and emitting a location of the transformed guide fields that best reproduces the frequency-independent signal portions as a location of the region to be localized.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising marking the regions with fluorescing markers to generate the various fluorescence properties.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein step (a) comprises generating the fluorescence-exciting light signals with various modulation frequencies and radiating the light signals into the tissue section.

4. A method as claimed in claim 3 comprising radiating the fluorescence-exciting light signals as laser light of suitable wavelength.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising normalizing said guide fields before step (e).

6. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step (e) comprises transforming the guide fields into orthogonal guide fields.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6, comprising determining the orthogonal guide fields from the guide fields by a singular-value decomposition.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, comprising determining optical parameters with reference measurements in non-fluorescence-exciting wavelengths by estimation.

9. A device for localizing regions in a biological tissue section, said biological tissue section, at least during an examination, exhibiting a fluorescence property different from the tissue section, said device comprising:

an arrangement of light sensors distributed on a surface of the tissue section;

a laser diode arrangement for emitting fluorescence-exciting light that interacts with a fluorescing marked region in the tissue section, causing the marked region to emit fluorescence-excited light that is detected by the light sensors in a two-dimensional measurement value distribution, said light sensors generating response signals corresponding to said two-dimensional measurement value distribution; and

a processor supplied with said response signals, said processor determining frequency-independent signal portions in the response signals and further processing the frequency-independent signal portions into input values for localization, modeling the tissue section and determining a

set of guide fields from the model; and transforming the guide fields and comparing the input values processed from the frequency-independent signal portions with the transformed guide fields, and emitting a location of the transformed guide fields that best reproduces the frequency-independent signal portions as a location of the region to be localized.

11. A device as claimed in claim 9 wherein said arrangement of light sensors comprises a first set of light sensors and a second set of light sensors adapted to be respectively disposed on opposite sides of said tissue section.

12. A device as claimed in claim 9 comprising an x-ray mammography apparatus having two compression plates, and wherein said light sensor arrangement is integrated into at least one of said compression plates.

13. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said arrangement of light sensors comprises a flexible mounting for said light sensors.

14. A device as claimed in claim 9 wherein said arrangement of light sensors comprises a curved mounting for said light sensors.